

*****LEGAL NOTICE*****

**Pines to Mines Trail Project
Public Scoping**

TAHOE NATIONAL FOREST

**YUBA RIVER, TRUCKEE, AND SIERRAVILLE RANGER DISTRICTS
NEVADA COUNTY, CA**

The Forest Service is seeking comments during a 30-day public scoping period on the Pines to Mines Trail Project. The project proposes development of a multi-use native surface trail system connecting Nevada City, CA to Truckee, CA. The proposed trail system would be approximately 68 miles in length and would include all, or parts, of existing Forest Service network trails, as well as some new trail construction. The purpose of the Pines to Mines Trail project is to connect the community of Nevada City to the community of Truckee with a multi-use, recreational trail. Providing recreation opportunities is one of the Forest Service's major missions in California (SNFPA ROD, 2004). Residents, community organizations, and local businesses have expressed a need to expand public access to trails and open space, support economic development, improve sustainable recreation opportunities, and connect the western and eastern portions of Nevada County with a multi-use trail. Actions are needed to help achieve these shared goals. The proposal will serve to promote safe and sustainable recreation opportunities on public lands while continuing to meet our responsibilities to protect and preserve public resources.

The Project is located between Nevada City, CA and Truckee, CA within Nevada County, along the Highway 20 corridor and north of Interstate I-80 . The detailed scoping letter, draft proposed action, and maps for this project are available at: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=61221>. Proposed actions include: Constructing approximately 16-18 miles of new, native surface, single-track trail from Eagle Lakes to Donner Summit connecting the existing Grouse Ridge and Hole in the Ground trails; Designating all, or portions of, approximately 50 miles of identified existing Forest Service System trails as part of the new Pines to Mines Recreational Trail system including Donner Lake Rim (15E75), Grouse Ridge (13E28), Hole in the Ground (14E25), Pioneer (09E11), and Spaulding Lake (12E40); and Designating the allowable uses of the proposed Pines to Mines Recreational Trails system. Forest Plan direction and Agency regulations, along with different use scenarios and public input, will be assessed to determine the allowable uses. Potential uses include hiking/walking, running, mountain biking (including pedal-assist Class 1 E-Bike¹), and equestrian riding.

Tahoe National Forest is seeking public input on this proposal. If you have information you believe the Forest Service may not be aware of or have issues (points of dispute, debate or disagreement) regarding potential effects of the proposed action, please submit those comments in writing to: Eli Ilano, Forest Supervisor, C/O Alonzo Henderson, Yuba River Ranger District, 631 Coyote Street, Nevada City, CA 95959-2250 or FAX (530) 478-6109. The Tahoe National

¹ **Class 1 E-Bike** - is defined as a low-speed pedal-assisted electric bicycle equipped with a motor (750 watts or less) that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling, and that ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 20 miles per hour.

Forest office business hours for hand-delivered written comments are: 8:00 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Electronic comments must be submitted in a format such as an email message, plain text (.txt), rich text format (.rtf) or Word (doc) to: comments-pacificsouthwest-tahoe-yuba-river@usda.gov

The Responsible Official intends to use an Environmental Assessment (EA) to analyze potential environmental impacts. As such, this project will be subject to 36 CFR 218 Project-level Predecisional Administrative Review Process (Parts A and B). Individuals and entities who submit timely, specific written comments regarding this proposed project during any designated opportunity for public comment (including this 30-day period) may file an objection. The opportunity to comment for the purpose of obtaining eligibility to file an objection under 36 CFR 218 ends 30 days following the date of publication of this legal notice in the newspaper of record, Grass Valley's *The Union*. For objection eligibility each individual or entity submitting comments must either sign the comment or verify identity upon request. Comments received, including the names and addresses of those who comment will be considered part of the public record on this proposal and will be available for public inspection

While the scoping process is open during the planning of this project, we would like comments to be received within 30 days after the publication date of this legal notice to allow time for issues to be addressed. For more information, contact John Brokaw, Yuba River Ranger District Environmental Coordinator and Project Interdisciplinary Team Leader; (530) 265-4531 or at john.brokaw@usda.gov.

Publish: